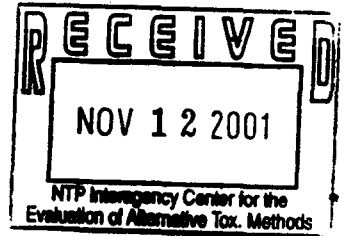


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Re: Report of the International Workshop on In Vitro Methods for Assessing Acute Systemic Toxicity

As a scientist with experience in medical research, I urge you strongly to fully replace the LD50 and acute toxicity tests with *in vitro* testing methods. It is simply unconscionable to subject large numbers of animals to the misery of poisoning, a misery well understood from many cases of human poisoning, when not absolutely necessary. There is no doubt that non-animal alternatives can serve as adequate tests of toxicity, particularly in light of the many shortcomings of animal toxicity testing, including the large variations in lethal doses between different species and the limitations on repeatability of LD50 and acute toxicity assays. *In vitro* tests are sufficient now and will only further improve with time. We presently have the opportunity to take the long anticipated step of fully phasing out these no longer acceptable tests. Thank you for your concern on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Noam Mohr